

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SHEARWATER FROM THE
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

BY H. W. HENSHAW.

Puffinus newelli, sp. nov.

Above, including upper surface of wings and tail, clear and somewhat glossy black. Border of under wing-coverts black. Beneath, including under tail-coverts, pure white. Maxilla and edge and tip of mandible black; rest of maxilla light brown. Tarsus and feet light yellow, but black along the outer posterior side of tarsus, the outer toe and half the middle toe. Wing, 8.65; tail, 3.75; bill, 1.28; tarsus, 1.80.

The above is a description of a Shearwater obtained by Mr. M. Newell of Hilo (Brother Matthias of the Catholic Brotherhood) in Waihee Valley, Island of Ulani, in the spring of 1894, and by him recently presented to the author. The sex was not determined. The bird was taken from its burrow with several others by natives and brought to Mr. Newell alive. The latter saved two specimens. One, the type, is in my possession; the other is probably still extant and in Honolulu.

In 1894 the species was numerous enough in the above mentioned locality, but its present status is doubtful, for the mongoose, which is rapidly exterminating the native Puffins elsewhere upon the islands, is an inhabitant also of Ulani.

As this Puffin was quite unknown to me, and as no account of it appears in either Rothschild's or Wilson's works upon the island birds, I sent the specimen to Mr. Ridgway who kindly compared it with National Museum material. Mr. Ridgway's remarks upon the specimen are as follows: "The *Puffinus* which you sent for identification is without doubt a new species. It comes nearest to *P. auricularis* Townsend, of Clarion Island (Revillagigedo group, N. W. Mexico), but differs in blacker color of upper parts, wholly white malar region, more extensive, more uniform and more abruptly white anterior and central under tail-coverts, more extensive and 'solid' blackish border to under wing-covert region, and especially in the very abrupt line of demarkation along sides of neck between the black of upper parts and white of under

parts. *P. auricularis* also has the bill entirely black and also stouter."

The species is dedicated to Mr. Newell, who has paid considerable attention to Hawaiian birds and has made extensive collections.

NESTING HABITS OF THE PACIFIC COAST SPECIES OF THE GENUS *RUFFINUS*.

BY A. W. ANTHONY.

Plate VIII.

THE BLACK-VENTED SHEARWATER (*Puffinus opisthomelas*), the most abundant of our Pacific Shearwaters, is extremely plentiful off the coast of central California during the summer months, and is found at all seasons of the year south of the Santa Barbara Islands. How far north its range extends I am unable to say, but I have seen what I was reasonably sure was this species off the Columbia River in November. Since its summer range is so far to the north it is a little strange that no breeding grounds have been discovered north of the Mexican Boundary.

Several years since Major Bendire wrote me that there was in the National Museum two or three eggs said to have been taken on one of the Santa Barbara Islands. As I now remember, he expressed some doubt as to the location, but considered the identification correct. That it does not nest on any of the larger of the Santa Barbara group, I am certain, since the foxes that inhabit the islands would exterminate them, but it is possible that on some of the smaller islands where there are no enemies a few may be found nesting. South of the Santa Barbara Islands I am confident none are found until Guadalupe is reached, about two hundred miles south of the National boundary.

Several years since, I found the Black-vented Shearwater (*Puffinus gavia*) rather common on Guadalupe, where their burrows were dug under huge blocks of lava in several parts of the island, but in no place was there any large colony. Their nests